

EXCLUSIVE: Couture STILL Hasn't Paid Property Taxes
By Mark Belling, WISN-AM

Four days after I reported the owners of the long-delayed Couture project in Milwaukee are delinquent on their nine-figure property tax bill, and two days after one of the developers told the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel the non-payment was an "oversight," the bill still hasn't been paid.

Updated Milwaukee tax records show the overdue bill for over \$401,000 remains delinquent as of this afternoon. Developer Rick Barrett was quoted on jsonline.com as saying on Sunday the tax delinquency was because of an oversight and that payment would be made immediately. The bill still hasn't been paid.

The developers bought the land for the Couture from Milwaukee County for only \$700,000 earlier in this decade but have failed to meet repeated deadlines to get financing for the project and break ground. Milwaukee Mayor Tom Barrett and County Executive Chris Abele have continued to support developers Rick Barrett (no relation to Tom) and Tan Lo despite years of broken promises. I will continue to check the tax balance to see when it is paid (if ever).

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